

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/711,792

Examiner

Prasith Thammavong

Applicant(s)

HSU, WENCHI

Art Unit

2187

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Amendment after final filed 9/6/07.

2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-12.

3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:

1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.

5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.

(a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached

1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.

(b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____

4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____

7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment

8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

The Examiner acknowledges the applicant's submission of the amendment dated 9/6/07. At this point, claims 13-42 have been cancelled.

The instant application having Application No. 10/711,792 has a total of 12 claims pending in the application, there are 2 independent claims and 10 dependent claims, all of which are ready for examination by the examiner.

1. EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The following is the Examiner's Amendment:

Please amend the title to "METHOD OF PREFETCHING USING A INCREMENTING/DECREMENTING COUNTER".

2. STATEMENTS OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCES

The Reasons for allowances for claims 1-12 can be found below:

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claim 1 recites the limitation of "pre-fetching a predetermined data from the memory and subtracting a first value from the counter value each time pre-fetching is activated." This limitation is taught by the specification at least at page 5, paragraph 16 and as argued by the Applicant on pages 10-11 of the response filed on 4/10/07. This

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limitation, in combination with other recited limitations of claim 1, is not taught or suggested by the prior art of record.

Claim 7 recites the limitation of "pre-fetching a predetermined data from the memory and adding a first value to the counter value each time pre-fetching is activated." This limitation is taught by the specification at least at page 9, paragraph 26 and as argued by the Applicant on pages 13-14 of the response filed on 4/10/07. This limitation, in combination with other recited limitations of claim 7, is not taught or suggested by the prior art of record.

Claims 13-42, which were previously rejected, have now been cancelled by the Amendment filed 9/6/07.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

3. RELEVANT ART CITED BY THE EXAMINER

The following prior art made of record and not relied upon is cited to establish the level of skill in the applicant's art and those arts considered reasonably pertinent to applicant's disclosure. See **MPEP 707.05(c)**.

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. These references include:

Choubal et al. (US PG PUB 2005/0210202 A1), which teaches managing input/output (I/O) requests in a cache memory system.

4. CLOSING COMMENTS

Conclusion

a. STATUS OF CLAIMS IN THE APPLICATION

The following is a summary of the treatment and status of all claims in the application as recommended by M.P.E.P. ' 707.07(i):

a(1) CLAIMS ALLOWED IN THE APPLICATION

Claims 1-12 are considered patentably distinguishable over the prior art of record.

b. DIRECTION OF FUTURE CORRESPONDENCES

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Prasith Thammavong whose telephone number is (571) 270-1040 can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday 9:00am - 6:00pm and the first Friday of the bi-week, 9:00 am -5:00 pm

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Donald Sparks can be reached on (571) 272-4201. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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Prasith Thammavong
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2187
September 10, 2007

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Donald Sparks", is written over a large, stylized, handwritten letter "A".

DONALD SPARKS
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER